

**National Transportation Safety Board
Washington, DC 20594**

Brief of Accident

Adopted 05/08/2003

DCA00MA052 File No. 13533	05/21/2000	Bear Creek Town, PA	Aircraft Reg No. N16EJ	Time (Local): 11:28 EDT		
Make/Model:	British Aerospace / J-3101			Fatal	Serious	Minor/None
Engine Make/Model:	Allied Signal / TPE331-10UGR		Crew	2	0	0
Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed		Pass	17	0	0
Number of Engines:	2					
Operating Certificate(s):	On-demand Air Taxi					
Name of Carrier:	East Coast Aviation Services					
Type of Flight Operation:	Non-scheduled; Domestic; Passenger Only					
Reg. Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter					
Last Depart. Point: Atlantic City, NJ			Condition of Light: Day			
Destination: Wilkes Barre, PA			Weather Info Src: Weather Observation Facility			
Airport Proximity: Off Airport/Airstrip			Basic Weather: Instrument Conditions			
			Lowest Ceiling: 500 Ft. AGL, Broken			
			Visibility: 2.50 SM			
			Wind Dir/Speed: 260 / 003 Kts			
			Temperature (°C): 11			
			Precip/Obscuration: Drizzle / None			
Pilot-in-Command	Age: 34		Flight Time (Hours)			
Certificate(s)/Rating(s)			Total All Aircraft: 8500			
Airline Transport; Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land;			Last 90 Days: Unk/Nr			
Instrument Ratings			Total Make/Model: 5674			
Airplane			Total Instrument Time: UnK/Nr			

The Board's full report is available at <http://www.nts.gov/publicn/publicn.htm>.

On May 21, 2000, about 1128 eastern daylight time (EDT), a British Aerospace Jetstream 3101, N16EJ, operated by East Coast Aviation Services (doing business as Executive Airlines) crashed about 11 miles south of Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport (AVP), Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. The airplane was destroyed by impact and a postcrash fire, and 17 passengers and two flight crewmembers were killed. The flight was being conducted under 14 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 135 as an on-demand charter flight for Caesars Palace Casino in Atlantic City, New Jersey. An instrument flight rules (IFR) flight plan had been filed for the flight from Atlantic City International Airport (ACY) to AVP.

Brief of Accident (Continued)

DCA00MA052				
File No. 13533	05/21/2000	Bear Creek Town, PA	Aircraft Reg No. N16EJ	Time (Local): 11:28 EDT

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: APPROACH

Findings

1. 1 ENGINE
2. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - FLIGHTCREW
3. FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION
4. (F) IN-FLIGHT PLANNING/DECISION - NOT RECOGNIZED - FLIGHTCREW
5. FUEL SUPPLY - INADEQUATE

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(PARTIAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: APPROACH

Findings

6. 1 ENGINE
7. (C) FLUID,FUEL - STARVATION

Occurrence #3: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: APPROACH

Findings

8. AIRCRAFT CONTROL - REDUCED
9. (F) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - COPILOT/SECOND PILOT

Occurrence #4: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - TURN TO LANDING AREA (EMERGENCY)

Findings

10. TERRAIN CONDITION - GROUND

Findings Legend: (C) = Cause, (F) = Factor

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows.

The flight crews failure to ensure an adequate fuel supply for the flight, which led to the stoppage of the right engine due to fuel exhaustion and the intermittent stoppage of the left engine due to fuel starvation. Contributing to the accident were the flight crew's failure to monitor the airplanes fuel state and the flight crew's failure to maintain directional control after the initial engine stoppage.